

DIRECTIONS

To reach Mount Blue State Park in Weld, follow Rouse 156 from Wilton or Route 142 from Dixfield or Phillips. To reach the Mount Blue trailhead and Center Hill pienic area, follow the Center Hill Road from Weld Village. To reach the Webb Beach and campground



proceed 2 miles north past Weld Village and bear left on the West Road at Webb Corner. Continue 4 miles to Webb Beach Road. which leads down to the lake and campground. NOTE: GPS navigation systems and cell phones are unreliable in this area. Do not count on them. Carry a Maine road map.

Maine's Lakes & Mountains Region

Park fees are payable at the Park's entrance.

. Day Use & Boat Launch:

View online information for all Parks and Public Lands sites:

- www.maine.gov/doc/parks/programs/DUfees.html
- + Camping: www.campwithme.com
- + Annual Individual & Vehicle Passes:
- www.maine.gov/doe/parks/programs/parkpasses.html

CONTACTS

Maine Division of Parks and Public Lands P.O. Box 327

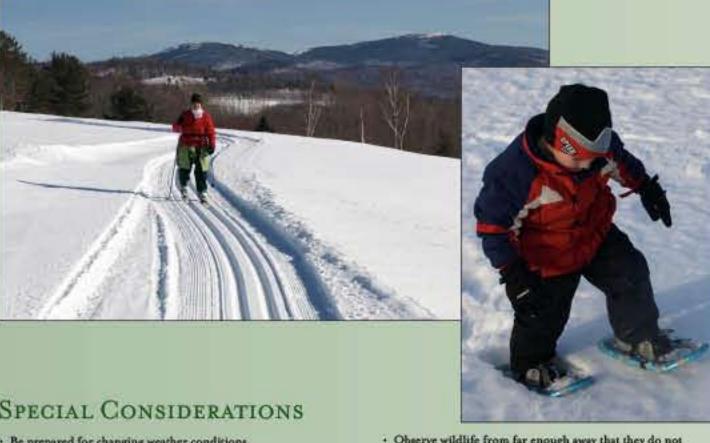
Farmington, ME 04938 207-778-8231

Franklin County Chumber of Commerce 248 Wilton Road Farmington, ME 04938 207-778-4215 www.franklincountymaine.org

Mt. Blue State Park 299 Center Hill Rd Weld, ME 04285 Summer: (207) 585-2347 Fall, winter and spring: (207) 585-2261

www.maine.gov/mountblue





SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

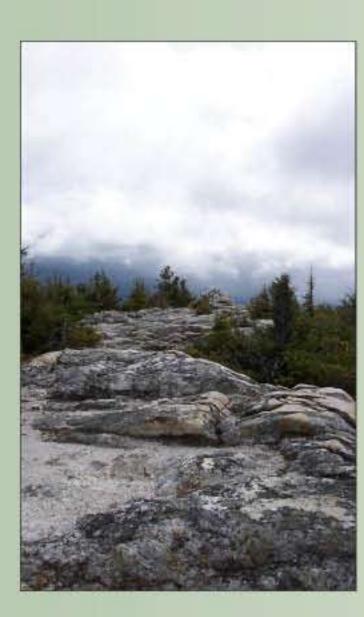
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions. Wear appropriate footwear and layered clothing. Carry wind and waterproof clothing. Inform someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- · Buy only local firewood and thoroughly clean boats and motors to avoid importing invasive plants and animals.
- + Do not leave valuables unattended in your vehicle.
- · Please stay on established trails (even when muddy) to protect sensitive ecosystems-particularly in summit areas.
- · Observe wildlife from far enough away that they do not change their behavior: do not follow or feed animals. Avoid areas with nesting birds, dens or young animals (even those that appear abandoned).
- · Be prepared for black flies and mosquitoes, particularly in May and June. While the area is not heavily infested with deer ticks, it is still advisable to check yourself daily to prevent Lyme disease.
- · Don't count on your cell phone in an emergency as coverage is spotty to non-existent. Vehicle GPS systems are unreliable in this area.

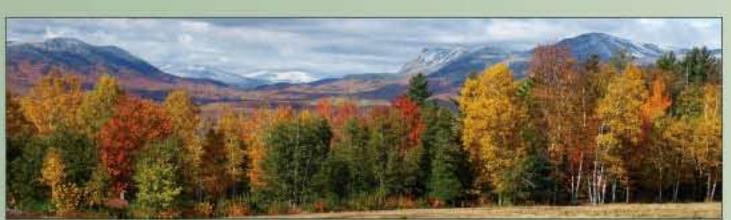


Sketing rink at Ranger Station on Center Hill Road.

VISITOR RULES

- · Visitors may not remove, molest, injure or damage anything historical, physical, prehistorical, or natural (except for hunting and trapping as provided by law) and may not endanger other persons or property.
- Quiet in camping areas is required between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (and is encouraged during the day as sound travels). Gates are open from 7 a.m. to II p.m. Generators in the campground can be operated only at designated times.
- · Park rules prohibit use of intoxicating beverages.
- · While in the park, keep pets on a leash (less than 4 feet) at all times, do not leave them unattended, and clean up their waste.
- + Carry out all trash.
- · Hunting is permitted at Mount Blue State Park between October 1 and April 30. Hunting at the Tumbledown Public Lands follows State hunting seasons. For Maine fishing and hunting laws, and license information, visit the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website www.maine.gov/ifw.
- + Discharge of any weapon is prohibited at all times within 300 feet of any picnic area, camping area or campsite, parking area, building, shelter, boat launch site, posted hiking trail or other developed area.
- · Baiting wildlife for hunting is prohibited at Mount Blue State Park. Trapping may take place (with written permission of the Division if inside the State Park) only in accordance with local ordinances and the laws and rules of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.
- · Bear-balting (hunting bear over bait) is allowed on the Tumbledown Public Lands. Contact DPPL's Western Region Lands office for bait site requests.
- · ATVs and snowmobiles are permitted only on designated trails.





PROPERTY HISTORY

D etween 18,000 and 14,000 years ago, ice sheets overspread the region-scoring exposed rocks and couring out valleys like the one where Webb Lake lies. Indigenous people later used this area for seasonal hunting and trapping, making permanent settlements where food could be found consistently on larger lakes and rivers and along the coast. The area's first farm was established in 1798 and, within 30 years, much of the virgin forest on lower slopes had been cleared. By the early 1900s many area farms had been abandoned, but visitors can still find stonewalls and cellar holes from this era.

MOUNT BLUE STATE PARK

During the 1930s Great Depression, the federal government purchased 5t parcels of marginal farmland under the U.S. Resettlement Administration Land Utilization Project. The federal Works Progress Administration hired workers and began to build the infrastructure of roads and buildings that would become Mt. Blue State Park. The U.S. Department of Agriculture transferred the property to the State in 1955, and subsequent acquisitions expanded the park to its current size of 8,000 acres.

TUMBLEDOWN PUBLIC LANDS

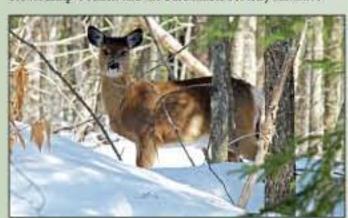
For generations, traditional trails outside the park crossed private forest lands without guaranteed access. In response to this threat, numerous groups joined forces to secure the summit and northern slopes of Tumbledown Mountain, parcels bordering the Webb Lake Campground and East Brook, all of Jackson Mountain and the top of Blueberry Mountain, the entirety of Jackson Pond, and easements on an additional 12,000 acres.

While many forests within the Public Lands have been harvested (some just prior to the State's acquisition), there are wooded pockets that have seen limited cutting and contain hardwoods more than 150 years old. Today, portions of the Tumbledown Lands are managed sustainably to produce timber products (that help fund property management) while still providing recreation and conservation benefits.



TIMBER MANAGEMENT ON MAINE'S PUBLIC LANDS

The Division of Parks and Public Lands (DPPL) manages its public lands to achieve multiple benefits: public recreation, wildlife habitst and timber sales (revenues from which help fund land management). The Division adheres to strict practices in selectively harvesting timber, minimizing runoff and soil erosion, and taking other measures to ensure that the health of the larger ecosystem is maintained. DPPL's forest practices are green-certified by two independent auditors-the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.



PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

From 1999 through 2002, the Department worked closely with the Tumbledown Conservation Alliance and The Trust for Public Land to expand key sections of Mount Blue State Park. protect critical buffer lands, and conserve significant portions of the Tumbledown Range. Thanks to the hard work of these partners, the State was able to protect approximately 30,000 acres. Recreational Trails Program money helped fund this





SERVICES AND FACILITIES AT MOUNT BLUE STATE PARK

- 136 campsites (each with fireplace and picnic table) near Webb Lake. All sites accommodate both tents and RVs. Four sites can be reserved for large groups.
- · Swim beach on Webb Lake
- · 2 reservable group picnic shelters
- · Waterfront picnic area on Webb Lake · Summit picnic area on Center Hill
- · Playground
- · RV dumping station
- · Hot showers for campers, flush and pit toilets, and changing facilities for swimmers
- · Amphitheater and nature center (with interactive displays and exhibits)
- + Rowboat, kayak, paddle boat and canoe rentals (available during the summer only)
- · Outdoor ice rink and warming hut at Ranger Station on Center Hill Road.
- · Trailered boat launch on Webb Lake



NEARBY DESTINATIONS

Mt. Blue State Park and the Tumbledown Range are in the Maine's Lakes and Mountains Region (www.westernmaine.org) that encompasses Franklin and Oxford Counties and represents the westernmost portion of Maine. Nearby destinations include:

- · Androscoggin Riverlands State Park is a 2,800-acre expanse with 12 miles of river frontage offering abundant opportunities for walking, fishing, bosting, wildlife watching and hunting just north of Lewiston-Auburn.
- · Grafton Notch State Park/Mahoosuc Public Lands offers hiking, picnicking and sightseeing (with numerous waterfalls and gorges) within a mountainous, 33,000-acre region encompassing some of the state's most scenic terrain.
- · Rangeley Lake State Park, with 869 acres in the heart of Maine's Western Mountains, offers 50 campsites along cool, clear waters popular for boating and fishing.
- · Kennebec Highlands offers a variety of recreational opportunities on more than 6,500 acres of conserved lands in the Belgrade Lake region west of Augusta-protected through a public-private partnership.

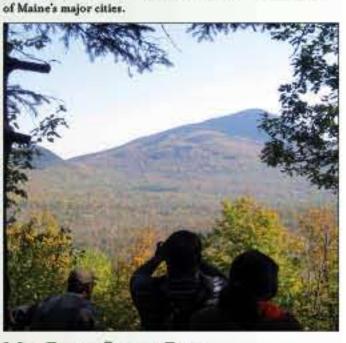
POINTS OF INTEREST

- · Height of Land, a famous overlook on Route 17 (between Byron and Rangeley), provides a stunning vista of the entire Rangeley region and hiking along the Appalachian Trail.
- · Goos Canyon, a scenic gorge along the Swift River in Byron, offers an opportunity to pan for gold and enjoy swimming in a spectacular natural setting.
- · Smalls Falls Rest Area, just south of Rangeley on Rt. 4. provides a picnic spot and swimming hole by a cascading set of falls within a scenic gorge along the Sandy River.
- · State Route 27 is a designated national scenic byway that runs from Kingfield north through the Carrabassett Valley to the Canadian border.



OVERVIEW

t. Blue State Park and the Mt. Blue/Tumbledown Public Lands offer a prime, four-season destination With abundant outdoor recreation opportunities in Maine's Western Mountains-just a two-hour drive from most



MT. BLUE STATE PARK

Mt. Blue State Park is Maine's largest state park, encompassing approximately 8,000 acres in two sections separated by Webb Lake. A campground in the Webb Beach section has 136 wooded sites a short walk from a sandy beach and picnic area with adjacent playground. Visitors can swim, launch and rent boots, and walk on trails near the lake. During summer months, park staff routinely offer canoe trips, walks, and nature programs. A Nature Center features hands-on exhibits and displays.

Across the lake from the Webb Beach section is the centerpiece of the Park, 3,187-foot Mt. Blue, a popular day-hike. Visitors also enjoy walks and picnics on Center Hill (see Trails section). Mountain bikers, equestrians, and ATV riders can experience 25 miles of challenging, multi-use trails. In winter, the park's extensive trail system supports snowmobiling, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Families come to sled at Center Hill and skate on an outdoor ice rink with warming hut at the Center Hill Road Ranger Station.

TUMBLEDOWN PUBLIC LANDS

Adjoining Mt. Blue State Park is more than 22,000 acres of State-owned Public Lands and State-held easements encompassing the Tumbledown Mountain Range. Tumbledown Mountain, with an alpine pond near the summit, is the most popular hike, but surrounding lands offer many other outdoor opportunities.

The large expanse of unfragmented land supports wildlife habitat while meeting human needs. Visitors may spot moose, deer and the occasional bear, coyote or fox-along with numerous songbirds (including all six species of thrush that breed in Maine). Hikers can explore several trails and peaksmany of which afford splendid views. Long traditions of hunting and timber harvesting continue today, with all forestry now done to certified sustainable standards.

WHEN TO VISIT

Trail enthusiasts, anglers, and campers enjoy this region through warm-weather months, followed by snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and ice-skaters in winter.

Mount Blue State Park welcomes visitors year-round, however the campground is open from May 15 through Columbus Day. Park hours are 9:00 a.m. to sunset. Earlier openings vary with the season; call ahead for these and campground hours. Advanced reservations are recommended for the campground. Contact the State Park Reservations Office: 800-332-1501 in Maine; 207-624-9950 from outside Maine; or online at www.campwithme.com.

